

Meets 2nd and 4th Mondays
at 8:00 P. M., Labor Temple
840 E St., Eureka, California

"IN THE REDWOODS"

Phone HI 2-4575
P. O. Box 259



Central Labor Council
of Humboldt and Del Norte Counties

Affiliated with
American Federation of Labor
Congress of Industrial Organizations
California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO



Geo. O. Faville, Sect'y.
Office: Labor Temple

Eureka, Calif.

August 21, 1961

TO ALL LOCAL UNIONS WITHIN THE JURISDICTIONAL
AREA OF THE CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL OF HUMBOLDT
AND DEL NORTE COUNTIES, AFL-CIO:

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

We are enclosing a copy of an appeal from the Agricultural
Workers Organizing Committee which is self-explanatory.

We are certain that all members of organized labor are
aware of the struggle the AWOC is having to better the
wages and working conditions of these people who are much
less fortunate than the rest of us.

This Central Labor Council adds its voice to the appeal for
financial assistance so direly needed if the noble work
undertaken two and a half years ago is to continue.

We respectfully request that you, as unions and as individuals,
give every possible aid to assure the continuance and the
ultimate successful conclusion to the stupendous job of
organizing this Committee is doing.

With best wishes and kindest regards, we are

Fraternally yours,

CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL OF HUMBOLDT
AND DEL NORTE COUNTIES, AFL-CIO

Geo. O. Faville

Geo. O. Faville, Secretary

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enc.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

George Meany, President
Wm. F. Schnitzler, Sec.-Treas.
John W. Livingston, Director
of Organization

AGRICULTURAL WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
Norman Smith, Calif. Director
805 East Weber Avenue
Stockton 3, California

(COPY)

August 10, 1961

To all our Brothers and Sisters in the Labor Movement:

We did not join the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee just to become another chapter in the long history of attempts to build a union of farm workers in California. We joined this drive because we were determined to write our own book, from beginning to end.

AWOC has raised farm wages at least \$20,000,000 in its areas of operation. AWOC has been directly responsible for cutting down the number of braceros north of the Tehachapis by more than 20,000. We signed more dues-paying members, authorized more strikes, and trained more organizers and stewards than any other organizing drive in the history of California agriculture. And we aroused the conscience of the people of California and the nation more than it has ever been aroused before on this issue.

Vultures are circling, in the hope our campaign is dead. But gains such as we have made cannot be allowed to die. The emerging dignity of farm workers in this State cannot be allowed to wither. We are determined to preserve that dignity. AWOC Director, Norman Smith, has vowed to stay with this movement the rest of his life. Many of his staff members have pledged to continue their work, on a volunteer basis if necessary. A number of AWOC local councils are in the process of formation. All their officers are contributing their services. The spirit of the farm workers, in the face of their present crisis, is splendid.

But splendid spirit is not the only necessary ingredient in an organizing drive. Farm workers' determination must be supplemented by the conviction of people throughout California -- and people in the labor movement, particularly -- that agricultural workers deserve to be, can be, and shall be organized.

To supplement our determination and our own financial resources, we need material help: to pay office rent and utilities bills; to buy the paper and ink to make handbills; and to meet the thousand and one other expenses that are essential to any drive such as this. Toward this end, we have created an AWOC Survival Fund, contributions to which will be allocated among the several local AWOC Councils.

Help us to bring the benefits and dignity of responsible unionism to the last unorganized industry, the biggest industry of all in California: agriculture. You will be helping yourself and your own family, too. The labor movement will either move forward together, or it will stagnate separately.

AGRICULTURAL WORKERS ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

August 10, 1961

AWOC would be happy to send you additional literature if you wish. We will also try to arrange to have a speaker for your group, if you wish, although in view of our present circumstances we cannot guarantee we will be able to accept all invitations. Please remember that many of our needs are immediate: rent on one office is due on August 15; another on September 1; and so forth.

Ask your Central Labor Council to make a commitment to this cause. Ask your local union; your international union. Make an additional commitment as an individual, if you are able. The contribution need not be a large lump sum. A modest but regular sum, pledged each month over a period of time, would be most welcome. Help us write the last remaining chapters in this book which it has taken a century to write: the building of a union of, by, and for agricultural workers.

Thank you on behalf of your brothers and sisters in the fields.

Faternally yours,

/s/

Norman Smith, California Director

/s/

Henry Anderson, Chairman, San Joaquin Area Council

/s/

Dorothy Hager, Chairman, Stanislaus Area Council

/s/

Tony Rubalcaba, Chairman, Fresno Area Council

/s/

Frank Palk, Chairman, Sacramento Area Council

AWOC Survival Fund
805 East Weber Avenue
Stockton 3, California

I (we) enclose a contribution of \$ _____ to help organize farm workers.
I (we) pledge \$ _____ a month for _____ months to help organize farm workers.

Name _____

Address _____

Union Affiliation _____